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Judiciary Breaks Ground for New Kaua'i Judiciary Complex

The Hawai'i State Judiciary broke ground on the Kaua'i Judiciary Complex in a ceremony today at the future site of the complex. The new facility will be located at the intersection of Kapule Highway and Ka'ana Street, next to the Kaua'i Veterans' Center.

Beginning in 1994, the Legislature funded the acquisition of the six and one-half acre parcel through capital improvement appropriations, and subsequently approved funding for the design and construction of the project.

The general contractor for the project is Unlimited Construction Services, Incorporated, a Kaua'i-based construction contracting firm. The architectural firm that designed the project is Anbe, Aruga, and Ishizu Architects, Inc., which also designed the Kauikeaouli Hale court building in downtown Honolulu in the late 1970's. The State of Hawai'i's Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) coordinated the design of the project with the architects and their various consultants, and will also oversee the construction on the Judiciary's behalf. The total construction cost for the project, not including fixtures, furnishings and equipment, is approximately \$36 million.

The three-story complex will have a total of about 112,000 square feet. One wing of the building will contain six courtrooms and judicial chambers fronting Kapule Highway, and the other wing will house administrative functions and court user services. The site will have more than 240 parking stalls for both public and employee vehicles.

"The Kaua'i Judiciary Complex marks a significant milestone for the Judiciary as this is only the second Judiciary facility to be built since 1987," said Chief Justice Ronald T. Y. Moon, who was on hand to participate in the ceremony. "Next Tuesday (March 25, 2003), we will be dedicating the first facility-- the Abner Paki Hale courthouse in Kane'ohe. This is indeed an exciting time for all of us as these new facilities will enhance our continuing efforts to better serve the community."

In addition to Moon and Fifth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge George M. Masuoka, other dignitaries participating in the event were: Michael F. Broderick, administrative director of the courts; Walter Ozawa, deputy administrative director; Steven S. Okihara, chief court administrator, and Ernest W. Barreira, deputy chief court administrator, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Harold Inouye, project architect, Anbe, Aruga & Ishizu Architects, Inc.; Peter Robson, president, Unlimited Construction Services, Inc.; Russ Saito, state comptroller, DAGS; and Stanley Doi, district engineer, DAGS. The Reverend Richard Kamanu of Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church offered the blessing.

"The new complex will be a state-of-the-art facility with many modern and technologically-equipped features," said Masuoka. "It will be a vast improvement over our present facilities on Kaua'i and will have

much needed space for us to conduct court operations as we serve the people of Kaua'i."

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Note: A color rendering of the courthouse in electronic form is available upon request.